the country concerning six million blind people in India;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Finance Ministry as reported "feels exasperated by the 'unexplained' delay on the part of the Ministry of Health to start negotiations with the World Bank for this last offer" which took over a year and a half to take shape; and

(c) if so, full details thereof indicating as to who is responsible for jeopardising this ambitious project;

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir. But a misleading news item appeared in the Times of India dated January 30 1994.

(b) No, Sir.
(c) Does not arise.

**Resettlement of villagers in Kendrapaja District, Orissa**

*246. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the in habitants of villages Satabhaya and Kahnupur under Kedrapara District (Orissa) have submitted a Memoran dum to the Governor of Orissa on his recent visit to the affected area due to coastal erosion;

(b) whether Orissa Government has requested his Ministry according clearance to the resettlement of 393 families of above villages;

(c) what is the total land required for the resettlement of these families as per request of Government of Orissa and what is the total land offered by Government of Orissa in lieu of the proposed land for settlement for afforestation;

(d) whether the land in question for resettlement is adjacent to agricultural fields and there is no exis-



tence of any tree therein except weeds; and

(e) what is Government of India's reaction to this proposal in view of rapid sea erosion at Satabhaya and Kahnupur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHR KAMAL NATH) : (a) As per the information received from the State Government of Orissa, villagers of Satabhaya and Kahnupur have-submitted a represen-tation to the Governor of Orissa during his recent visit to the area.

(b) and (c) Orissa State Government have sent a proposal for diversion of 532.97 ha. of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for rehabilitation of 395 families of Satabhaya and Kahnupur villages in District Cuttack. The State Government has identified 654.066 ha. of non-forest land for raising compensatory afforestation in lieu of the for-est land to be diverted for rehabilitation purposes in the present case.

(d) The entire area proposed for diversion comes under Mangrove tco-system and forfs pert of Bhitar-kanika Wildlife Sanctuary.

(e) After detailed examination of the proposal and site inspection of the forest area involved, the State Government have been requested to send a revised proposal for resettlement of these villagers.

**Construction of Railway Station in Ashok Vihar, Delhi**

*247. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Win the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a provision to construct a railway station in Ashok Vihar, Delhi to meet the re-quirement of a large number of people residing in Ashok Vihar, Shall